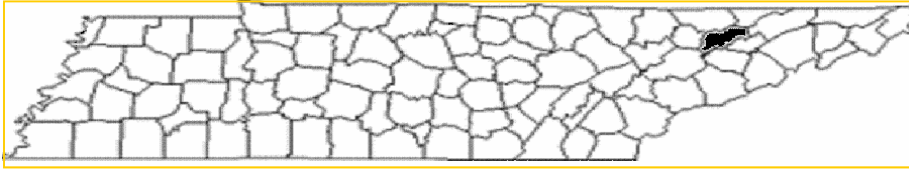


The Status of Women in Grainger County



STATUS OF WOMEN IN GRAINGER COUNTY: AN OVERVIEW

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INDICATOR	DATA	COUNTY RANKING
		(of 95 Counties)
COMPOSITE EMPLOYMENT & EARNINGS INDEX	61.00	75
Women's Annual Earnings	\$19,410	81
Women's Earnings as a Percentage of Men's Earnings (Wage Gap)	75.3%	24
Women's Labor Force Participation Rate	39.2%	73
Female Unemployment Rate	6.1%	47
Women in Managerial or Professional Occupations	23.6%	80
COMPOSITE ECONOMIC AUTONOMY INDEX	47.00	44
Businesses that are Women-Owned (% of total)	26.1%	23
Women with a Four-Year College Degree (%)	7.9%	78
Women With a High School Diploma (%)	60.1%	88
Female High School Dropout Rate	5.0%	30
Women with any Kind of Health Insurance Coverage (%)	93.3%	28
Women Earning Incomes Below the Poverty Level (%)	20.9%	82
Single Female-Headed Households Living In Poverty (%)	8.8%	39
Adolescent Pregnancy Rate (Ages 10-19)	24.7	8

Report Overview: This publication on the Status of Women in Grainger County is part of a statewide publication of the Tennessee Economic Council on Women, *The Status of Women in Tennessee Counties, 2004*. The Economic Council on Women is a State agency created under TCA § 4-50-100, et seq. by the One Hundredth General Assembly in 1998 to address the economic needs of Tennessee women.

The Status of Women in Tennessee Counties

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Women have taken remarkable strides towards economic equality, from education to earnings to political participation. Women are now pursuing goals such as business ownership, leadership roles in their careers, and election to state and federal political office. However, obstacles still exist in the climb toward equality. Nationwide, equal numbers of men and women are obtaining four-year college degrees; however, these gains have not translated into pay equity. The average college-educated woman working full time earns \$44,200 a year compared to \$61,800 for men in the same category. Women are still under-represented in many of the highest paying, fastest growing sectors of the economy. Helping women break into these traditionally male-dominated areas like computer science, engineering, mathematics and technology, as well as all skilled-labor positions, gives women tools for self-sufficiency and understanding of their personal capabilities, and these advances are good for the economy of our counties and of our state.

Employment and Earnings

The employment and earnings index includes data on women's annual earnings, the earnings gender gap, female labor force participation, female unemployment, and percentages of women in professional or managerial occupations.

- ◇ Women in the county have median annual earnings of \$19,410, almost \$2,000 less than the statewide annual median for women and \$6,371 less than the earnings of their male counterparts in Grainger County.
- ◇ Women comprise 50.2% of the county population but only 39.2% of women in the county participate in the labor force.
- ◇ The female unemployment rate for Grainger County is at 6.1%, significantly higher than the county's overall rate of 4.9%.
- ◇ 23.6% of women in the county hold managerial or professional positions; only 18.0% of all employed persons in the county work in managerial or professional occupations.

Economic Autonomy

The economic autonomy index includes information on educational attainment, business ownership and general quality of life issues.

- ◇ Grainger County ranks in the top 30 counties in percent of businesses owned by women (26.1%), female high school dropout rate (5.0%), women with any kind of health insurance coverage (93.3%), and adolescent pregnancy rate (24.7 per 1,000 girls).
- ◇ Though Knoxville's education opportunities are about 30 miles away, there is no post-secondary education available within the county. Less than 8 percent of women in the county possess a four-year college degree, and just over 60 percent of women have a high school diploma.
- ◇ Just over 20 percent of working women in Grainger County earn wages that are below the poverty level.
- ◇ Though 15.1% of all families in the county are below poverty level, 36.7% of female-householder families with no husband present are living in poverty.
- ◇ Despite comprising 50.9% of the county's eligible voters, women hold only 3 of the 15 county commissioner positions.
- ◇ Though 26.1% of businesses are owned by women, just 6.1% of income and receipts from private firms in the county come from those women-owned businesses.

The Status of Women in Tennessee Counties

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		Grainger County	Rank of Grainger County	Highest Ranking County
Earnings	Median Annual Earnings for FT Females	\$19,410	81	Williamson: \$32,243
	Wage Gap	75.3%	24	Davidson: 82.1%

Employment	Female Labor Force Participation Rate	39.2%	73	Rutherford: 50.9%
	Female Unemployment Rate	6.1%	47	Pickett: 1.5%
	Percent of Employed Females in Management, Prof., and Related Occupations	23.6%	80	Anderson: 44.6%
	Women Owned Business % of Total	26.1%	23	Moore: 63.3%

Education	% of Females with 4 Year Degree or Better	7.9%	78	Williamson: 39.5%
	% of Females with High School Diploma (or equivalency)	60.1%	88	Williamson: 90.6%
	Female Dropout Rate	5.0%	30	Clay/Pickett: 0.0%

Lifestyles	% of Women with any kind of Health Insurance Coverage	93.3%	28	Williamson: 100%
	% of Women Living Below Poverty Level Incomes	20.9%	82	Williamson: 5.4%
	% of all Female Headed Households with Children in Poverty	8.8%	39	Williamson: 2.5%
	Rate of Pregnancy of Girls Aged 10-19 per 1000	24.7	8	Williamson: 1.2%

ABOUT THE COUNCIL AND THIS REPORT

Grainger County

The Status of Women in Tennessee Counties report offers an economic profile of women in each county of Tennessee and examines how women's rights and equality vary among the counties. The report presents data and overall rankings in two categories of women's economic status: employment and earnings and economic autonomy. Indicators of women's status in each category make up the composite rankings of the counties.

The employment and earnings section presents data on women's annual earnings, the earnings gender gap, female labor force participation rate, the female unemployment rate, and the percentage of women in managerial occupations.

The economic autonomy section includes information on the percentage of businesses owned by women, educational attainment levels, percentage of households headed by a single female, single female headed households living in poverty, percentage of women with health insurance, the high school dropout rate and the teen pregnancy rate.

The **Tennessee Economic Council on Women** was created in 1998 by the Tennessee General Assembly to assess Tennessee women's economic status. The Council develops and advocates solutions to address women's needs in order to help women achieve economic autonomy. In setting its priorities, the Council selects issues that are timely and likely to result in positive changes for women.

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Visit the Tennessee Economic Council on Women at www.tennesseewomen.org

SOURCES	
Earnings and Employment	
Median Annual Earnings for Full Time Employed Females	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Wage Gap (Female Earnings as a Percentage of Earnings)	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Female Labor Force Participation Rate	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Female Unemployment Rate	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Percent of Employed Females in Management, Professional, and Related Occupations	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Economic Autonomy	
Women-owned Business, Percent of total	Economic Census, 1997
Percent of Females w/4yr Degree or Better	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Percent of Females with a High School Diploma (or equivalency)	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Female Dropout Rate	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Percent of Women with Any Kind of Health Insurance Coverage	Tennessee Department of Health, 2002
Percent of Women Living Below Poverty Level Incomes	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Percent of all Female Headed Households with Children in Poverty	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Rate of Pregnancy of Girls Aged 10-19 per 1000	Tennessee Department of Health, 2002
Voter Demographics and Elected County Officials	National Association of Counties